

# Inside Wallops

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Goddard Space Flight Center

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## Wallops Employees Join the Retiree Ranks

**David L. Davis** retired as an Information Technology Specialist from NASA Wallops Flight Facility effective January 3, 2006, with 43 years of government employment.

Davis began work at Wallops in 1963 and has provided outstanding support and/or leadership to a multitude of projects.

These include: RADAC, ADEOS II, University of Alaska ground station contract, QuikSCAT data stripper, automated tracking station, ADEOS data stripper, 11 meter antenna system, mobile range instrumentation radar systems, fixed range instrumentation radar systems, instrument landing system, Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite, lightning detection and ranging system, environmental data acquisition and recording system, Doppler signal processor, wind weighting system, and the mobile 1218/9300 computer system.

Davis' unique perspective, appreciation of the "big picture" and willingness to share

his ideas made him a valuable colleague and an excellent mentor to a wide variety of people.

**Eddie Pettitt** began his government career in 1973 after being selected to enter the NASA Engineering Technician Apprenticeship Program at NASA Wallops.

Following graduation, he was assigned to the Telecommunications Section where he supported the programming and timing systems operations.

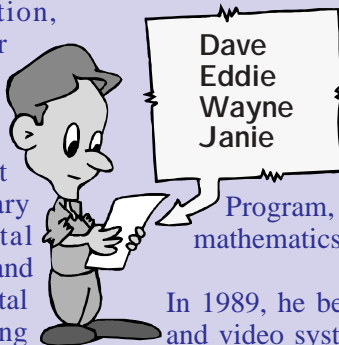
In 1982, Pettitt was selected to participate in the Undergraduate Study Program, earning a B.S. degree in mathematics in 1984.

In 1989, he became lead for the CCTV and video systems operations. In 1999, Pettitt joined the AETD Electrical Systems Branch as an electronics technician and worked in support of the GAS/SEM and Balloon Programs until his retirement on January 3, 2006, completing over 32 years of government service.

**H. Wayne Brittingham**, an aerospace engineering technician in the Mechanical Systems Branch, retired effective December 31, 2005, after 28 years of government service.

Brittingham started his government career in what was originally called the Launch Vehicles Branch on Wallops Island. He served as launch vehicles technician, pad supervisor, and launcher maintenance/refurbishment expert providing support to any and all Wallops Flight Facility range activities occurring on the Island, from sounding rocket launches to UAV operations.

**Jane E. Penn**, a project support manager in the Wallops Aircraft Office, retired effective January 31. Penn began her government service as a secretary in the Earth Observations Office at NASA Headquarters in 1967. She later became head of the Graphics Office at Headquarters where she remained until 2000 when she came to Wallops for a one year Professional Development Program. At the completion of the program, Penn chose to remain at Wallops and was hired in the Aircraft Office.



## NASA and Industry Join Forces for Virginia Aero-Space Day

NASA representatives from the Wallops Flight Facility and Langley Research Center participated with aerospace industry leaders and members of professional organizations statewide at Aero-Space Day, in Richmond, Va., on Thursday, Feb. 2.

John Campbell and Adena Loston, NASA Suborbital and Special Orbital Projects Directorate; Keith Koehler, NASA Public Affairs Office; Billy Reed, Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport; and Bob Hickman,

Computer Sciences Corporation were among those who met with General Assembly members to discuss the importance of aerospace to the Commonwealth.

Over the past 20 years, the aerospace industry has contributed more than half a trillion dollars of positive balance of trade to the American economy. In Virginia, the aerospace industry provides more than 30,000 jobs with salaries ranging from \$73,000 for an aerospace engineer to \$34,000 for a systems assembler or rigger.

## Dr. Weiler Talks About the NASA Budget

Deputy Director, Mike Ryschkewitsch, Deputy Director-Technical, Dolly Perkins, Associate Director, Krista Paquin and Chief Financial Officer, Nancy Abell will join Dr. Ed Weiler for an All-Hands on Tuesday, February 7 at 9 a.m. about the Goddard and the agency's FY 2007 budget.

NASA's budget will be available on-line today, at 1 p.m. at <http://www.nasa.gov/budget>. The All-Hands will be broadcast at Wallops on Channel 7.

## Balmy Winter Days by Ted Wilz, Senior Meteorologist

The recent weather on Delmarva has been delightful with temperatures in January well above average, giving us one of the warmest on record.

Although no new record high temperatures were set during the month, there were 25 days when the high temperature was above average. We were over seven degrees above normal.

The warmest day of the month was January 9, when we reached 65 degrees. This was one of six days when the temperature was in the 60s.

The coldest day of the month occurred when the temperature dropped to 25

degrees on the morning on January 7. That was the only time our low temperature dipped below average for the month.



Measurable rain, totaling 2.73 inches, fell on 12 days during January. The average for January is 3.15 inches. Although January averages three inches of snow, we barely saw a flake with a light dusting on January 14.

January had nine days with winds of 30 mph or greater. The strongest wind of 48 mph occurred on January 25. Winds were often from the south and southwest instead of the normal northwesterly direction, resulting in the warmer mid-winter temperatures.

## "Fraternal, Social, and Civic Organizations"

Every February, Americans celebrate Black History Month. This tribute dates back to 1926 and is credited to Harvard scholar, Carter G. Woodson.

In an effort to bring national attention to the contributions of black Americans, Woodson organized the first annual Negro History Week in 1926. He chose the second week of February in honor of the birthdays of pivotal black supporters Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln.

The theme for this year's National Black History Month is dedicated to exploring the impact that Black fraternal, social, and civic organizations have had on the evolution of African-American life and history.

### MEMO

**Have you had a flu shot?  
It's not too late!**

The Influenza Vaccine (flu shots) is available in the Health Unit by appointment.

Call the Health Unit at x1266.

### Conflict Management Skills February 22 Building E-104, Room 310

This conflict management training class is presented by the GSFC Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Program and is designed to improve an employee's ability to manage conflict.

Register at <http://ohr.gsfc.nasa.gov/DevGuide/forms/htm> and complete GSFC/GSFC17-117.doc Register early, seating is limited. For further information contact Rich Billger at x2394.

### Looking Forward to Another Mission

The following are excerpts from a January 10 letter to Phil Eberspeaker, Chief Sounding Rockets Program Office.

"Our sounding rocket mission, 36.227 US, launched August 3, 2005, was highly successful. All of the minimum success criteria were met or significantly exceeded. As was the case with past missions, the success of this mission was due in large part to the concerted efforts of the NSROC team. Tracy Gibb's effective coordination of materials and man power made the execution of test operations and payload logistics timely and efficient. This mission could not have been a success without the hard work of the entire NSROC team.

We are looking forward to another mission in 2006....." **Dr. Darrell L. Judge**  
University of Southern California

### For Sale.....

1999 Dodge Grand Caravan LX. Fully Loaded. Asking \$3500. Call Karon Eichelberger at (757) 665-6220

Four Tires — 31x10.5x15 BFG Mud Terrain. Very low miles and are in great shape. Call Jason Reese at (757) 894-2774

2001 Chrysler Voyager Mini-Van, excellent condition, 56,000 miles. \$7200, OBO. Call 854-1844 after 5 p.m.

### Fitness Club Membership

It is time to renew memberships in the Wallops Fitness Club. For present members the Renewal dues are \$20 for current members for 2006. For new members the dues are \$20 plus a \$5 card deposit fee.

The new key card lock will be installed on February 13.

New key cards are available from Robert Tittle at x1244, Roland Wescott at x1624, and John Gerlach at x1515.

## UNDER CONSTRUCTION

### Engineering Building:

Electrical rough-in for the first floor is proceeding well and most of the electrical panels are installed even though there are no walls up as yet, (Temporarily Supported). Work also is underway on mechanical piping for the first floor under floor HVAC units. Roof joists are due to arrive the week of February 13. The concrete planks for the second floor deck are scheduled for arrival the week of February 20.

### Project Support:

The footers and foundations are complete. Electrical rough in for under slab is almost complete. The placement of the main slab for the facility is 75% complete with the final pour to complete the concrete slab scheduled for this week, at that time the masonry walls will be going up. The underground sanitary drainage also is under way.

*Inside Wallops* is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of *Inside Wallops* also may be found on the NASA Wallops Flight Facility homepage: [www.wff.nasa.gov](http://www.wff.nasa.gov)

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